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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Fourth session
Geneva, 21-31 March 1994
Working Group I
Agenda item 2

ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Draft report of Working Group I

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. A. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan)

A. Organization of work

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 March 1994, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in accordance with resolution 2/1, allocated item 2 of its agenda, entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" to the working groups. Working Group I would be responsible for the elaboration of such provisions as the preamble, principles, objectives and commitments; including financial arrangements, national and regional action programmes, education and public awareness and capacity-building.

2. At the 1st meeting of Working Group I, on 21 March 1994, the Chairman made an introductory statement.

3. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved its programme of work for the session. It held .. formal meetings and .. informal meetings during that period.

4. Working Group I had before it for its consideration a note by the Secretariat entitled "Revised negotiating text of the Convention" (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1).

B. Discussion of topics

1. Preamble

First reading

5. Working Group I considered the topic at its 1st meeting, on 21 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 16 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

6. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 24 March. At its 6th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 10 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. At the 7th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 14 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Third reading

(To be included.)

2. Scope of the Convention

First reading

7. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March, and heard a statement by the representative of one State speaking on behalf of the

States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

8. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 7th meeting, on 24 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Third reading

(To be included.)

3. Objectives

First reading

9. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March, and heard statements by the representatives of five States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

(To be included.)

4. Principles

First reading

10. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 22 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

(To be included.)

5. General provisions

First reading

11. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 22 March. At the 2nd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 18 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. At the 3rd meeting, statements were

made by the representatives of five States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

Second reading

12. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 8th meeting, on 25 March, and heard statements by the representatives of nine States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Third reading

(To be included.)

6. Action programmes

First reading

13. Working Group I considered the topic at its 3rd to 5th meetings, on 22 and 23 March. At the 3rd meeting, on 22 March, statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as by the representative of one non-governmental organization. At the 4th meeting, on 23 March, statements were made by the representatives of 31 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of Member States of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, as well as by the representative of a non-

governmental organization. At the 5th meeting, on 23 March, statements were made by the representatives of 18 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

14. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 8th meeting, on 25 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 16 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

Third reading

(To be included.)

7. Capacity building, education and public awareness

First reading

15. Working Group I considered the topic at its 5th meeting, on 23 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as by the representative of a non-governmental organization.

Second reading

16. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 9th meeting, on 25 March, and heard statements by the representatives of seven States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community, as well as by the representatives of two non-governmental organizations.

Third reading

(To be included.)

8. Financial resources and mechanisms

First reading

17. Working Group I considered the topic at its 6th meeting, on 24 March, and heard statements by the representatives of six States, including one speaking on

behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

(To be included.)

C. Adoption of report

18. At its .. meeting, on .. March, the Working Group adopted the draft report [as orally revised].

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